The Kings Declaration,

Importing a Reuocation of all ſuch Letters for Ennoblishment, *as haue not been verified in the* Chamber of accountes of Normandy.

Alſo of all ſuch as haue been graunted to ſuch perſons as haue or yet do beare armes againſt his Maieſtie, and fauour Rebelles.

Together with an Arreſt or decree *of the Court of Parliament of* Caen, *concerning* the reſidence of Clergie men vpon their *Cures, and the warrantiſe of their Tithes.*

Faithfully tranſlated out of French according to the *Coppye printed at* Caen.

AT LONDON

Printed for *Edward White*, and are to be ſold at the little North doore of S. Paules Church, at the ſigne of the

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The Kings Declaration, importing a rouocation of all ſuch Letters for Ennoblishment, as haue not been verified in the Chamber of account of Normandy, alſo of all ſuch as haue been graunted to ſuch perſons as haue or yet doo beare armes againſt his Maieſtie, and fauour the Rebels.

HEnry by the grace of God, King of *Fraunce* and *Nauarre*, to our truſty and welbeloued, our Officers of accompts, now tranſferred to *Caen* greeting and goodwill.

Wheras the late our moſt honorable Lo. and Brother vpon the neceſsitie of the affaires of this kingdome, thought good to aduaunce vnto the ſtate of Nobilitye, ſundrye pezants, ſome for money, others in recompence of their ſeruice: the generall Edicts wherof were directed to our Chambers of accounts, to the which eſpecially the verification of the ſaid ennoblishments, alſo of the money or deſert of the gift thereof doth appertaine, and without the which verification which is the proper eſſence of the ſaid ennoblishments, the ſame are of no force or valew. Notwithſtanding ſome of our Subiects

in the ſaid Court of *Normandy*, pretending that they haue obtained the ſaide Letters of ennoblishment, which they haue not verified before you, do vſurpe the qualitie & priuilidges of Nobility, and ſome that were ſubiect to tallages, do cauſe themſelues to be raced out of the role, to the great preiudice of our treaſurye, and ſuch our Subiectes as doo beare their taxes contrary to all equitye and reaſon.

Alſo of thoſe that haue beene ennobled or haue verrified their Charters after the forme accuſtomed, ſome haue very ingratefully reuoulted from our ſeruice.

We therfore deſiring for the wealth of our eſtate, or the releefe of our poore people, to prouide againſt the fraud and abuſe committed in the obtaining of the ſaide ennoblishments, as well to the detriment of our treaſurie, as the vnworthineſſe of thoſe who by ſurpriſe rebellion or otherwiſe, haue purchaſed the gift therof: and hauing referred the matter to the deliberation of our Counſell, by the aduice therof we haue ſaid, declared, and ordained, and doo ſay, declare, and

ordain

ordain by theſe preſents, that all & euery the ſaid ennoblishments heretofore by our ſayd predeceſſor and vs graunted throughout our Cuntry or Dutchye of *Normandy*, which yet are not verified in our ſaide Chamber of accompts of *Normandy* to be voide or of none effect. Willing and charging you moſt expreſſely to inhibit and in our name to forbid all purchaſers of the ſame, neuer to make any vſe therof, neither to take or vſurp the ſayde qualitye or priuiledge of Nobility: alſo all our Iudges or Officers, not to receiue or tollerate them, vntill they haue been well and duelye verified in our ſaid Chamber, vnder pain of tranſgreſsion of falshood & arbitrary amends albeit there should chaunce to be ſome that haue not been directed therto, which as wreſted and not duely verified we haue and do reuoke.

We do moreouer forbid our elect and the Controuler in matter of aide and tallages, euerye one in his election, that they shall not ſuffer or permit any of the ſaide pretended ennobled Perſons, that hath heretofore contributed to our tallages, to be raſed out of the

rules of the ſame: alſo that if any haue been ſo blotted out and raced, our pleaſure is, that they ſhall be put in againe and taxed as afore time, vnder paine that themſelues ſhall anſwere for it in their own priuate name.

Moreouer to the end to vnderſtand how they haue done their dueties herein, we doo commaund them to preſent vnto you the catalogue and roale of ſuch as pretend themſelues to be ennobled in euery election, that at the inſtance of our Atourney general they maye be aſsigned in our ſaide Chamber, to bring in their Letters, which if the caſe ſo fall out ſhall be retained as being obteined by fraude and contrary to the intent of our predeceſſor and vs, or els in verrification to taxe them as you ſhall think reaſonable.

Futhermore, concerning thoſe that vngratefullye haue ſince theſe Nobles reuolted from our ſeruice: we haue and doo reuoke all and euery their charters, graunts that haue beene made vnto them, and all verifications that thereof maye haue enſued: and as men for their rebellion depriued and diſgraded from all honor and degree of nobility, our will is

that

that they be ſet down and made contributory to our tallages as other Pezants are, or in caſe they inhabit in the free towns, they shal not take or attribute to thẽſelues any further ſtate or priuiledge then of Pezants, notwithſtanding whatſoeuer their Letters of grace, either alreadye or hereafter to be purchaſed at our hands, before the ſame haue beene verified in our ſaid Chambers of accompts.

We doo alſo will and commaund you to cauſe theſe Letters of declaration to be read, published, regiſtred, printed and ſent to all our Seas, auditories, and other places conuenient: alſo to cauſe the contents in the ſame to be maintained, kept, and obſerued by Bailifs, Stewards, elect, and others our Officers and Subiects, and to proceed againſt the infringers thereof by all due and reaſonable meanes. For this end we giue you full power and authoritie: for ſuch is our pleaſure.

Giuen at our Campe at *Mante* the 29. of Iune, the yeer of grace 1591. and of our raign the 2.

Signed by the King in his counſell Potier, and ſealed with the great ſeale vpon a ſingle labell of yellow waxe.

Moreouer vpon the ſaide Letters it is written, read, published, and regiſtred in the Chamber of accounts of *Normandy*, in the hearing and at the requeſt of the Kings Attorney Generall in the ſame, like as is conteined in the regiſter at *Caen* the 27. of Iulye in the yeere 1591. Signed *Richer*.

THe Chamber hauing ſeene the Letters pattents of the Kings declaration, giuen at his Campe at Mante the 29. of Iune laſt, containing a reuocation of ennobliſhments graunted by the ſaid Lord and the late King, not verified in the ſaid Chamber, vntill the ſaide verification in the ſame, albeit there may be ſome whoſe letters haue not beene directed thereto. Alſo that concerning ſuch as vngratefullye haue reuolted ſince the late troubles: his Maieſtie hath likewiſe reuoked their charters and grauntes, together with all the verrifications that may haue enſued, and that as men depriued and for their rebellion diſgraded from all honor and degree of nobility: he willeth them to be reduced and ſuborned to the tallages as other the Pezants are, or if they inhabite in anye free Townes, they ſhall not take vpon them anye other degree or priuelidge thē Pezants, notwithſtanding whatſoeuer Letters of grace they haue, or heereafter may obtaine of his ſaide Maieſtie, vnleſſe the firſt verified in the ſaid Chamber, as more at large is conteined in the ſaid letters pattents. The Kings

Attorney

Attorney generall being heard, who hath required the registring of the same, and the whole considered: The Chamber hath ordained and dooth ordaine, that the saide Letters of declaration of the 29. of Iune last, shalbe read, published and registred in the roules therof. The Vidimus whereof shalbe sent to the Baylifs and their lieuetenants in euerye Vicounty, also to the elect of the election of this Prouince, that there they may likewise be read and published in their Sea and auditories, withall enioyning the substitutes of the said Attorney generall in euery the said iurisdictions, to assist the execution of the said Letters, and the said lieuetenants of Bailifs and the elect, to send within one moneth into the saide Chamber, a roule and catalogue of such persons as may haue prosecuted their letters of ennoblishment before them, or that manifestly haue taken vpon them the saide title and degree of nobility, since the yeere 1574. Together with a summary of their behauiours, dealinges and residence: also to send the coppies of their letters and charters obteined by the saide ennobled persons and of the arrests of verification thereof ensuing. Giuen the 27. of iuly. 1591.

Taken out of the Regester of the Chamber of accounts of Normandy.

Signed Richer.

An

An Arreſt or decree of the Courte of Parliament of Caen concerning the reſidence of Curats and Clergie men, vpon their Cures, and the warrantiſe of their Tythes.

VPon requeſt exhibited by the Kings Attorney generall, ſhewing that he vnderſtãdeth that in diuers places and pariſhes of this prouince of Normandy, there are riſen ſundrye Souldiours & other vnknown perſons in armes, who by plaine force doo endeuour to gather and take vp the tithes of the ſaid Pariſhes (malgre thoſe to whom by right they do appertaine) to the great preiudice of the Clergie, and contrary to the Kings Edicts and decrees: with all requiring the ſaid Court to graunt him commiſſion to enforme againſt the tranſgreſſors of the ſaide Edictes and decrees, as alſo that the ſame maye be read againe and publiſhed euen in the Pulpits of the ſaid pariſhes: likewiſe in the meane time that all men may be inhibited and forbidden not to intrude themſelues to diſturb the ſaid Clergie, in the receipt of their ſaid titles, vnder ſuch penalties as by the ſaid Court ſhalbe thought conuenient, nãely to anſwere all charges, damages and intereſt of the ſaid Clergie and their farmers.

The Court hauing ſeen the ſaid requeſt, and giuen attendance to the Counſellor that made the reporte, all thorowly conſidered. The ſaide Court miniſtring Iuſtice vpon the peticion of the ſayde Attorney generall, hath ordeined and enioyned all

Curates

Curates and Eccleſiaſticall perſons that haue cure of Soules, to be actually reſident vpon their Cures and Benefices, there to preach and teach the word of God, and to inſtruct their Pariſhioners in their due obedience to the King, to pray for his perſon, with the proſperitie of his affaires and eſtate, to obey and fulfil his Edicts and the decrees and arreſts of the ſaide Courte, vpon the penaltyes in the ſame ſet down. And in ſo dooing the ſaide Court inhibiteth and forbiddeth all perſons of whatſoeuer eſtate or calling, not to intrude themſelues directly or indirectly, to moleſt or hinder the ſaid Curates or Eccleſiaſticall perſons, in the enioying of their Cures or benefices, or in the receipt of their Tithes or reuenues of the ſame, vnder paine of confiſcation of body and goods. And to the end this preſent decree may be known to all men, the ſaide Courte hath ordained that it ſhalbe ſent into all the Bayliwicks of this reſort, withal enioyning the Bailifs, their Lieuetenants, and the ſaid Attorney generals ſubſtitutes to cauſe it to be publiſhed by ſound of Trumpet in all the accuſtomed places depending of their iuriſdictions, namely in the Pulpets at the great parochiall maſſes in euery Parriſh, vpon the Sunday and other ſolemne feaſtes, to the end none may be exerciſed vpon any pretence of ignorance.

Giuen at Caen in the ſaid Court of Parliament the 7. of Auguſt. 1591.

Signed Donneſt.

IN the same yeere 1591. vpon Monday the 12. of August at *Caen* in the presence of vs *Iohn Vauquelin* Esquir, Counsellor to the King & Lieutenant Generall to the L. Bayly of *Caen*, the contents of the arest aboue mentioned, was read and published in the audience of the iurisdiction of the said Bailiwick and persidiall Sea sitting and by vs holden. It was also ordeined at the petition of the kings Attorney generall, that the same shalbe also read and published with sound of Trumpet, and common proclamation in all the quarters and places vsed for Proclamations in the said Town, also that the copies or Vidimus shall be sent into all other the Vicountyes of this Bayliwick, there to doo the like: also to all the Curates and Vickers of the parishe of this Vicounty, to the end they may read thē in the Pulpits of their sayd parishes vpon the Sondaye, or other solemne feasts, that none maye pretend cause of ignorance: also that to the same ende the saide arrest shall be printed.

Likewise all Sergeants are enioyned each within his precinct, to see to the fulfilling hereof, vnder the penalties set down therfore to make such dispatch as may be requisite or necessary therto. Giuen as aforesaid.

Signed, *Vauquelin de la Serre.* Criquet.

THe same day and yeer the contents aboue mentioned were read and published in the quarters & places accustomed to make proclamations in this Towne of *Caen*, by me *Simon Berot* Sergeant royall of *Caen*, in the presēce of *Florimont le Soef* ordinary Trompet of the same town.

Signed. Berot.

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